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Classification

2809

CN: 2809

29 APR 70  
1825

Department of State  
**TELEGRAM**

AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO

Pol-23-8

INDICATE:  
 COLLECT  
 CHARGE TO

DISTRIBUTION

AMB  
DCM  
MINECON  
POL 2  
POL/R  
USIS  
SCI  
ECON  
E~~COML~~  
DAO 3  
MILGP 2  
CF

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4536

INFO: AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 5963  
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 4785  
USCINCSO FOR POLAD

RIO DE JANEIRO 2809

SUBJECT: GOB ATTITUDE TORTURE ISSUE

REF: STATE 62203

1. [REDACTED] RE 1ST ARMY G-2'S UNANNOUNCED INSPECTIONS OF  
DETENTION FACILITIES [REDACTED] ("POLICE OFFICIAL  
EO50x1  
COMMENTS ON TORTURE") CONTAIN ONLY REFERENCES EMB HAS SEEN TO DATE  
POSSIBLE GOB INVESTIGATION TORTURE ALLEGATIONS. EMB ATTEMPTING DEVELOP  
FURTHER DETAILS LATTER REPORT. WHAT ATTEMPTS HAVE BEEN MADE VERIFY OR  
REFUTE INTERNATIONAL PRESS REPORTS HAVE BEEN AT INSTIGATION NON-GOVERN-  
MENT ENTITIES, E. G. NATIONAL COUNCIL BISHOPS THROUGH PAPAL COMMISSION  
JUSTICE AND PEACE. LATTER WAS GROUP WHICH REPORTEDLY NEGOTIATED AT  
BEGINNING YEAR WITH IRC IN EUROPE AND SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH GOB (IN  
PERSON BUZAI) IN ATTEMPT AFFECT NON-PUBLICIZED INVESTIGATION AND  
POSSIBLE RESOLUTION PROBLEM. (SEE RIO'S A-101, FEB. 25)

2. EMB HAS HEARD NOTHING FURTHER THIS EFFORT. [REDACTED]

DRAFTED BY: POL:MGW/RE:ael  
RE:Johnson:ael  
CLEA  
EO50x1

DRAFTING DATE 4/29/70  
TEL. EXT.

APPROVED BY:  
POL:RE:Johnson

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FORM FS-413(H)  
4-68

Declassified Authority: 43265 By:  
Amanda Weimer Date: 05-01-2015



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AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO

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EO50x1

TWO IRC OFFICIALS WERE REPORTED IN EARLY APRIL

PRESS TO BE ON VERGE ARRIVING BRAZIL TO "LOOK INTO ALLEGATIONS OF GENOCIDE AGAINST INDIANS." NOTHING FURTHER HEARD OF REPORT. EMB THUS UNABLE CATEGORICALLY STATE NOTHING SO FAR HAS COME PROPOSED  
*HOWEVER*

INSPECTION, ~~WY~~ CANDIDO MENDES (EO50x1)

OUT OF BRAZIL ENTIRE MONTH APRIL ATTENDING OSAKA FAIR AND NOT DUE BACK  
*AND*  
UNTIL SECOND WEEK MAY, SINCE HE ~~PERSONAL~~ PERSONALLY CONDUCTED TALKS WITH IRC IN EUROPE, IT DIFFICULT CONCEIVE PLANS MOVING AHEAD HIS ABSENCE.

3. ONLY OFFICIAL NOTICE GOB HAS MADE OF ISSUE WAS MINJUS BUZAID'S DECEMBER 1969 DENIAL EXISTENCE TORTURE BRAZIL AND STATEMENT THAT GOB DID NOT CONDONE ITS USE. UNTIL TODAY THERE HAS BEEN VERY LITTLE MENTION OF TORTURE QUESTION IN BRAZIL PRESS AT ALL, EXCEPT FOR BRIEF REFERENCES TO FOREIGN CAMPAIGN TO "DEFAME BRAZIL". GOVT HAS MOVED TO ARREST FON MIN EMPLOYEES CHARGED WITH PASSING DEROGATORY INFORMATION TO FOREIGN PRESS.

4. PRESS APRIL 29 (ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, JORNAL DO BRASIL) GIVES EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO DEBATE ON THIS QUESTION IN

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## TELEGRAM

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### DISTRIBUTION

#### ACTION:

FEDERAL CONGRESS IN BRASILIA. DEBATE ON KENNEDY MONTANA SPEECH HAS TURNED INTO FREE-SWINGING DISCUSSION OF QUESTION OF VIOLENCE IN BRAZIL, WITH MDB OPPOSITION LEADERS VIANA AND LUCENA CALLING ON PRES. MEDICI TO LAUNCH INVESTIGATION AND PADILLA, GOVERNMENT LEADER IN HOUSE, CHALLENGING OPPOSITION TO PRODUCE SPECIFICS AND GUARANTEEING THAT GOVERNMENT WOULD PUNISH TORTURERS IF THEY EXIST (EMBASSY REPORTING FURTHER DETAILS ON DEBATE SEPARATELY). WHETHER THIS DISCUSSION WILL ELICIT SOME OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON SUBJECT REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

  
ELBRICK

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